

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: H. SAWAGUCHI

Serial No. 09/549,929 Filed: April 14, 2000 Group Art Unit: 2133 Examiner: S. Baker

For: DATA RECORDING/READBACK METHOD AND

DATA RECORDING/READBACK DEVICE FOR THE SAME

## REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/549,929, filed on April 14, 2000, entitled DATA RECORDING/READBACK METHOD AND DATA RECORDING/READBACK DEVICE FOR THE SAME, by the inventor named in the prior application.

- Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.
  - 2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee \$ 770.00 Total Claims 20 0 18 = \$ .00 1 х Independent Claims 1 -3 0 x 84 = \$.00 Total Filing Fee \$ 770.00

- 3. A Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$770.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.
- 4. Cancel claims 2-34 before calculating the Filing Fee.

  A Preliminary Amendment is submitted herewith.
- 5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed for this purpose.
- 6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/549,929, filed April 14, 2000.

- 7. New drawings are enclosed, thirteen (13) sheets, Figs. 1-9.
- 8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174 Shrinath Malur, Registration No. 34,663 John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293 Daniel J. Stanger, Registration No. 32,846 Gene W. Stockman, Registration No. 21,021.

There is a change in the correspondence address.

Address all future correspondence to:

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C. 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

9. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Limited.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/549,929, as originally filed on April 14, 2000.

Respectfully submitted

Zohn R. Mattingly

Registration No. 30,293

Attorney of Record

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR 1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370 Alexandria, Virginia 22314 (703) 684-1120

Date: October 28, 2003